A Believer's Testimony

"And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner."

(Luke 18:13)

FOR my own part, I confess myself a sinner still; and though I am not much tempted to outward, gross acts of iniquity, yet inward corruptions and spiritual wickedness continually harass and perplex my soul, and often make me cry out, *'O wretched man that I am; who shall deliver me from the body of this death!'* From me they are not yet removed; though I once hoped, with many others, that I should soon get rid of them. All I can do is to look to Jesus through them all; cling fast to His wounded side; long to be clothed with His righteousness; pray Him to plead my cause against these spiritual enemies that rise up against me; and, though I feel myself *leprous* from head to foot, believe that I am *clean*, through the word which He hath spoken unto me. In short, I rejoice, not because the spirits are always subjected to me, (for, alas! I find they are often too strong for me to control), but because my name is written in heaven.

I am daily more and more convinced, that the promises of God, to His people, are absolute; and desire to build my hopes on the free electing love of God in Christ Jesus to my soul, before the world began [2 Timothy 1:9, Jeremiah 31:3]; which, I can experimentally and feelingly say, hath delivered me from the lowest hell. He hath plucked me as a brand out of the fire. Though my ways were dreadfully dangerous to the last degree, His eye was all along upon me, for good. He hath excited me to love much, by forgiving me much. He hath showed me, and still daily shows me, the abominable deceit, lust, enmity, and pride of my heart, and the inconceivable depths of His mercy; how far I was fallen, and how much it cost Him of sweat and blood to bring me up. He hath proved Himself stronger than I; and His goodness superior to all my unworthiness. He gives me to know and to feel too, that without Him I can do nothing [John 15:1-5]. He tells me (and He enables me to believe it) that I am all fair, and there is no spot in me [Colossians 2:10, Ephesians 5:27]. Though I am an enemy, He calls me His friend; though a traitor, His child; though a beggared prodigal, He clothes me with the best robe, and has put a ring of endless love and mercy on my hand. And though I am often sorely distrest by spiritual internal foes, afflicted, tormented, and bowed down almost to death, with the sense of my own present barrenness, ingratitude, and proneness to evil, He secretly shows me His bleeding wounds; and softly, but powerfully, whispers to my soul, "*I am thy great salvation*." — Joseph Hart

SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH

March 27th, 2022

We gather together
Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. and
Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m.

Nursery available for 4 years old and younger

"…we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they."

(Acts 15:11)

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"[Reader] have you duly considered, how entirely grace and works stand opposed to each other in the statements of the gospel? So opposed, that they are incapable of uniting for a common end? 'If [salvation] be by grace, then it is no more of work, otherwise grace is no more grace; but if it be of work, then is it no more of grace, otherwise work is no more work,' [Romans 11:6]. You cannot, then, be justified by a combination of the two. It is not partly by the *one*, and partly by the *other*. The gospel is no half-measure. The justification and acceptance of a sinner is by God's grace alone. God grant you to hear it! How that salvation is *not* of yourself." *"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast"* (Ephesians 2:8-9). Amen! — Copied

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Welcome

SINNERS are welcome at Sovereign Grace Church. We are a local body of the Lord Jesus Christ. As you spend time with us, you'll soon discover we're an imperfect assembly, with an imperfect pastor, yet by God's underserved grace, we preach, believe, and know the perfect gospel of our never failing Lord Jesus Christ. Reader, we call His name Jesus for He shall (not might, not maybe) rather He shall save His people from their sins. And beloved believing sinner you already know it you are *complete in Him*, saved to the *uttermost* [Colossians 2:10, Hebrews 7:25].

Announcements

Happy Birthday!
Sandra Murphy, March 29th

Resources

BE sure to visit our websites for gospel articles, live messages, and resources.

Grace Articles

Through Grace We Shall Be Saved

"But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they."
(Acts 15:11)

READER, …there is in Christ a perfection of new covenant promises. These were all so made to Him, that they were to be fulfilled in the elect, on condition of His complying with His covenant-stipulations on their behalf. And that He has done so, the Father has acknowledged, in raising Him from the dead and receiving Him to heaven: wherefore, all the promises of God, thus made to Christ, are *in Him yea, and in Him Amen, unto the glory of God by us* (2 Corinthians 1:20). These promises include all good things for the heirs, and are appropriate to all conditions and cases among the regenerate: *My God,* saith Paul*, shall supply all your need, according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus* (Philippians 4:19).

In the light of these *revealed* facts, it must be evident to us, my [dear] believing [reader], that Christ is indeed *full of grace and truth*, and that *of His fulness have all we received;* also, that the communication made to us, is not of *debt*, but of *grace*;—it being *grace for grace* (John 1:14,16); that is, *favor* flowing from *favor*—favor for the sake of Christ, who is God's first and greatest gift, and the pledge and [surety] of every other: or, *grace upon grace*, Christ—the Spirit—pardon—justification—consolation, [sanctification] etc,. all in succession: or, one communication of grace after another; for He who gives regenerating grace, *giveth more grace*; even constantly—*grace to help in time of need* (James 4:6, Hebrews 4:16). Well, therefore, might Christ say to Paul, (and the same is applicable to every believer,) *My grace is sufficient for thee—my strength is made perfect in weakness* (2 Corinthians 12:9)*;* and well may all, *who through grace have believed*, say, with Peter, *We believe, that through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved* (Acts 15:11,18). — Copied

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"Set before your child life and death, hell and heaven, judgement and mercy, his own sin, and Christ's most precious [sin atoning] blood; labour with him, persuade him with tears and weeping to turn [from idols] unto the Lord."

— CH Spurgeon